

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01

SAM-01 DHA-02 ( ISO ) W  
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P R 271012Z AUG 76  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9303  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USIA WASHDC  
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 5709

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR SY LE  
SUBJ: AUG 27 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORT DR KHULI'S MEETING WITH SARKIS  
AND FRANGIE AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR RETURN OF SHIITE EVA-  
CUEES TO NABAA

1. SYRIAN MEDIA REPORTED DR KHULI'S DISCUSSION WITH  
SARKIS AND FRANGIE ON LEBANESE SITUATION AND ARAB SUMMIT.  
HE REPORTEDLY ENCOURAGED WITH CHANCES FOR SUCCESS IN TODAY'S  
MEETING OF ALL WARRING FACTIONS, CALLED TO DISCUSS AL  
PEACE PFOJECT. DAMASCUS MORNING RADIO REPORTED CONTINUA-  
TION OF SHELLING AND CLASHES IN VARIOUS PARTS OF LEBANON,  
WHILE PRESS REPORTED RELATIVE QUIET PREVAILED.

2. MEDIA HIGHLIGHTED SANA DISPATCH FROM BAALBEK ANNOUNCING  
INITIAL SUCCESS OF SYRIAN EFFORTS TO COMBAT PARTITION OF  
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LEBANON. ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED FOR (SHIITE)

EVACUEES OF NABAA AND SOME OTHER DISTRICTS TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES IN NORTHEAST BEIRUT. FIRST GROUP OF RETURNEES WILL DEPART BEKAA MORNING AUGUST 28; SUCCESSIVE CONVOYS WILL FOLLOW.

3. MUFTI HASAN KHALID DELIVERED RAMADAN ADDRESS, ACCORDING TO PRESS, IN WHICH HE STRESSED NECESSITY OF MAINTAINING LEBANON'S SOVEREIGNTY AND RESTORING ORDER TO NATION. HE SUPPORTED SYRIAN INITIATIVE AS IN BEST INTEREST OF LEBANON.

4. NASSERITE LEADER KAMAL SHATILA ISSUED STATEMENT REPORTED IN PRESS DEFENDING SYRIA'S ROLE IN LEBANON AND WELCOMING HOLDING OF ARAB SUMMIT.

5. JOINT SYRO-JORDANIAN STATEMENT ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF PRIMIN KHULAYFAWI'S VISIT TO AMMAN NOTED THAT TWO SIDES HAD DISCUSSED LEBANESE SITUATION AND COMPLETELY AGREED ON COURSE OF DEVELOPMENTS.

6. SADAT WAS ATTACKED BY PRESS FOR CALLING TO END STATE OF WAR WITH ISRAEL AND FOR PLANNING SABOTAGE MEASURES AGAINST LIBYA. COLUMNIST DENOUNCED SADAT FOR ACTING AS IF PALESTINE ISSUE WAS HIS OWN PROPERTY RATHER THAN CAUSE OF ALL ARABS. WRITER WONDERED HOW LONG EGYPTIAN ARMY WOULD TOLERATE SADAT.

COMMENT: AGREEMENT PERMITTING RETURN OF SHIITES TO THEIR HOMES IN EAST BEIRUT DEMONSTRATES SYRIAN ABILITY TO WIN SOME CONCESSIONS FROM LEBANESE CHRISTIAN LEADERS.  
MURPHY

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